



LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-22 (cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel, said cargo vessel having a starboard side and a port side extending between a stern and a bow with a planar cargo deck free of obstructions extending from the starboard side to the port side and from adjacent the stern of the vessel to a forebody with a wheelhouse at the bow, said vessel having bottom and side tanks for receiving sea water, so as to present the cargo deck at a desired level to allow a roll-on and roll-off method of loading and also at a level below the surface of the water, so that cargo can be floated on and floated off of the cargo deck over the sides of the vessel, said vessel having a diesel-electric drive system with at least one main engine, each main engine including a diesel engine and a generator located forward adjacent the bow of the ship, which system drives at least one azimuth rudder propeller which has an electric motor arranged outside of the vessel adjacent the stern of the ship, and electrical lines connecting the ~~electrical~~ electric motor of the azimuth rudder propeller with the diesel-electric drive system.

24. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, wherein the azimuth rudder propeller is an azimuth rudder double propeller.

25. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 24, which includes electrically-driven transverse thrust devices.

26. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 25, wherein the transverse thrust devices are controlled from a central navigation console in the wheelhouse and from two bridge side wings.

27. (Currently Amended) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 26, wherein ~~the~~ a flooding and freeing of the bottom and side tanks can be controlled from a control console in the wheelhouse.

28. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, which includes electrically-driven transverse thrust devices in the bow of the ship.

29. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 28, wherein the transverse thrust devices can be controlled from a central navigation console disposed in the wheelhouse and from two bridge side wings.

30. (Currently Amended) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, wherein the ~~a~~ flooding and emptying of the bottom and side tanks can be controlled from a control console in the wheelhouse.

31. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, wherein the main engines are provided with sound dampeners.

32. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, wherein the diesel engines can be operated with heavy oil which has a viscosity of approximately 3,500 s Redwood.

33. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 23, which includes auxiliary machines in the form of diesel engines which are operated with marine diesel oil.

34. (Previously Presented) A semi-submersible deadweight cargo vessel according to claim 33, wherein each of the auxiliary machines is installed on a vibration-dampened base.